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PATENT

Atty. Docket No. ADI-072 (257/38)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Shishido et al. CONFIRMATION NO. 7325
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/700,615 ART UNIT: 3711
FILING DATE: November 17, 2000 EXAMINER: S. B. Wong
TITLE: Ball for Ball Game

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

This paper is submitted in response to the pending Office Action, Paper No. 7, mailed from the United States Patent Office on November 29, 2001.

Please make the following amendments, without prejudice, and consider the following remarks. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, a marked up version of the amendments is attached at the end of this Amendment and Response.

In the Specification:

- At page 4, line 1, through page 7, line 4, please replace the section entitled "DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION" with the following:

The present invention provides a ball for a ball game comprising an elastic bladder having the form of a spherical hollow body into which compressed air is charged, a reinforced layer formed on a whole surface of the bladder, and a plurality of leather panels bonded onto the reinforced layer directly or through a cover rubber layer, wherein a peripheral edge portion of the leather panel is folded toward an inside and a thickness adjusting member bonded onto the back of the leather panel surrounded by the folded portion of the leather panel. According to such a structure, a trench having the same shape as the shape of a hand stitched ball is formed on a joint of the adjacent leather panels. The trench reduces air resistance, enhances gripping properties

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